Age and Infirmity and Financial Hardship

A property owner who cannot meet his/her real estate tax obligation due to AGE <u>AND</u> INFIRMITY <u>AND</u> POVERTY may apply for this exemption. To qualify, an applicant must present evidence to the Board of Assessors which corroborates individual's age <u>AND</u> infirmity <u>AND</u> inability to pay the assessed tax. Household income, assets, home equity and ability to defer taxes are some of the factors considered when determining poverty or financial hardship.

THE AMOUNT GRANTED VARIES ACCORDING TO NEED.

Newton Elderly and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund

The City of Newton has created a special fund to assist elderly and disabled persons of low income who are having problems paying their property taxes.

The Newton Taxation Aid Fund provides modest grants to help elderly and disabled citizens faced with temporary financial hardships. The grants are used to pay a small portion of a homeowner's real estate taxes.

Priority is given to property owners who do not qualify for aid from other tax assistance programs.

For complete details, requirements and an application either visit the City of Newton Web Site or call the Assessing Office at **617-796-1160**.

CITY OF NEWTON

Department of Assessment Administration

As provided by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, the Board of Assessors administers tax assistance programs for various eligible property owners. The programs are summarized in this folder.

Additional information and the necessary application can be obtained by visiting or calling the department of Assessment Administration at 617-796-1160.

Applications must be filed within three months of the mailing of the actual (third quarter) tax bill. The deadline will be in **March of 2013**. Applications must be filed on time and annually.

General Information

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

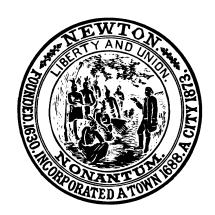
617-796-1160

1000 Commonwealth Ave. Newton, MA 02459

City of Newton Web Site

www.newtonma.gov

CITY OF NEWTON



PROPERTY TAX Assistance Programs

Setti D. Warren Mayor

Elderly, Surviving Spouse, Minor Child CLAUSE 17D

- must be over 70 as of July 1, 2012 <u>OR</u> must be a surviving spouse <u>OR</u> surviving minor child <u>AND</u>
- must have owned and occupied the property for five years <u>AND</u>
- must have a whole estate (the value of personal property less domicile) of less than \$40,000

Proposed COLA Pending Board of Aldermen Approval for FY 2014

• Proposed adoption of a Cost of Living Adjustment would adjust asset limit and exemption by an amount linked to the Consumer Price Index.

2012: \$40,000 VS. 2013: \$41,060

TAXPAYER IS ENTITLED TO A \$175 OR \$180 WITH FY2013 COLA EXEMPTION.

*2014 Requirements and exemption will be based on updated COLA

Senior Tax Deferral CLAUSE 41A

- must be over 65 as of July 1, 2012 **AND**
- must have primary residence in Massachusetts for ten years <u>AND</u>
- owned property in the state for five years AND
- must have occupied the property as of July 1, 2012 AND
- must have a total income of less than \$60,000 per year.

TAXPAYER IS ENTITLED TO DEFER (DELAY) PAYMENT OF ANY PORTION OF THE PROPERTY TAX BILL.

For Older Citizens CLAUSE 41C

- must be 65 years of age or older as of July
 1, 2012 AND
- must have primary residence in Massachusetts for ten years <u>AND</u> owned property in the state for five years <u>AND</u> must have occupied the property as of July 1, 2012 <u>AND</u>
- all co-owners must have a whole estate (the value of personal property excluding domicile) of less than \$40,000 if single, \$55,000 if married AND
- all co-owners must have an income less than \$20,000 if single, \$30,000 if married, after subtracting an allowable exclusion.

Proposed COLA Pending Board of Aldermen Approval for FY2014

 Proposed adoption of a Cost of Living Adjustment would adjust income and asset limits by an amount linked to the Consumer Price Index.

<u>2012 Asset Limit</u> VS. <u>2013 Asset Limit</u> Single: \$40,000 Single: \$41,060

Married: \$55,000 Married: \$56,458

2012 Income Limit VS. 2013 Income Limit Single: \$20,000 Single: \$20,530

Married: \$30,000 Married: \$30,795

*2014 Requirements will be based on updated COLA

TAXPAYER IS ENTITLED TO A \$1,000 EXEMPTION

Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program

- Must be sixty (60) years of age or older as of July 1, 2012.
- Must have principal place of residence in Newton, Massachusetts as of July 1, 2012
- Must have gross income less than \$40,000 if such person is single and not head of household, less than \$50,000 if such person is head of household, or less than \$60,000 if such person files a joint tax return with spouse.

Proposed Proxy Program Pending Board of Aldermen Approval for FY2014

• If the Board of Aldermen approves, a provision will be adopted for qualifying seniors who are physically unable to perform the volunteer work-off services. An equally qualified proxy may perform the services on behalf of the senior.

THE TAXPAYER IS ELIGIBLE TO EARN UP TO \$1,000* WHICH WILL BE CREDITED TO TAXPAYERS REAL ESTATE TAX BILL.

*Federal Tax and other deductions will be withheld